

APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING

SPIRAL WOUND GASKETS

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ABSTRACT

An apparatus (10) for manufacturing spiral wound gaskets, in which a length of an elongate band (22) is wound in overlapping relation on a die (100) to make a spiral wound gasket therefrom. The die (100) defines a slot (102) extending inwardly from a perimeter for receiving a distal end portion of the elongate band (22). A fixing device (120) secures selected portions of the wound elongate band together. A cutter (90) severs the elongate band (22) in order to remove the spiral wound gasket from the apparatus (10). A tapper (134) moves strikingly against a perimeter portion of the die to dislodge the spiral wound gasket. A method is disclosed that winds the elongate band around the perimeter of the die (100) until a desired radially thick spiral wound gasket is formed so that the gasket does not unwind. An improved spiral wound gasket is disclosed.